

Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission

Resolution Supporting the Kentucky Hazardous Waste Management Fund

- WHEREAS:** Contaminated hazardous waste sites pose a significant environmental risk and public health threat in Kentucky.
- WHEREAS:** Nearly 1,800 potential contaminated waste sites in Kentucky have been identified to date. Of the 1,275 sites investigated, 1,160 or 91% had confirmed contamination. About 66% of these contaminated waste sites have been remediated by the state or responsible parties.
- WHEREAS:** Pursuant to KRS 224.46-580 (3)(c) the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet is responsible for identifying, investigating, classifying, containing, or cleaning up any release, threatened release, or disposal of a hazardous substance where responsible parties are economically or otherwise unavailable to properly address the problem and the problem represents an imminent danger to the health of the citizens and the environment of the Commonwealth.
- WHEREAS:** The primary source of monies for the cleanup of abandoned contaminated waste sites where the responsible party cannot be found or is financially unable to clean up a site is the Kentucky Hazardous Waste Management Fund.
- WHEREAS:** The Hazardous Waste Management Fund, established in 1981 and later amended in 1990, is financed through a fee on hazardous waste produced and collects about \$2.8 million each year from the hazardous waste generators to finance site cleanups.
- WHEREAS:** As of December 1999, Hazardous Waste Funds have been used to investigate and remediate 58 contaminated waste sites and conduct 250 emergency removal operations.
- WHEREAS:** The Hazardous Waste Management Fund is an essential funding source to remediate abandoned contaminated sites and respond to emergency situations while also serving as an important economic incentive to promote waste reduction and prevention.
- WHEREAS:** The Hazardous Waste Management Fund fee is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2000.

Now be it resolved by the Environmental Quality Commission:

1. That the Environmental Quality Commission expresses support for House Bill 643 and Senate Bill 37 which removes the sunset provision on the Hazardous Waste Management Fund fee and keeps in place the current fee structure paid by generators of hazardous waste.
2. That this resolution be forwarded to Governor Paul E. Patton, James E. Bickford, Secretary of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet and members of the Kentucky General Assembly.

Adopted February 24, 2000

For more information regarding the status of legislation in the 2000 session visit the Legislative Research Commission website at <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us>

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